



GOOD TIDINGS FROM ZION



This the last of the Go and...themes. Go and be church. Too often in the church's history, church has meant primarily a building. Many of us probably learned the old Sunday school song:

I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together
This month, I'll share the Nebraska Synod website prompt:

What does it mean to be church? The Holy Spirit is moving and blowing through, with, and for God's people. To *Go and...* means we pray, listen, share our story, serve with neighbors, ask, be honest, be present, rest, have the conversation, be intentional, tell the story, and be the church. Everybody has something to offer – Let's Go!

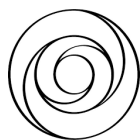
Questions to Consider:

- If you overheard someone talking in the grocery store about your congregation/ministry site, what do you hope people are saying?
- Use your imagination! What is your big dream for your congregation? (No limits!)
- What gifts, talents, and expertise do you hold and how can you share?
- I am going to *Go and* be church by _____.

I think we've actually done some solid work at imagining ways we can be the church in our area. I hope we can keep that going and growing. I hope you'll spend some time with those questions and then let's keep the conversation going.

In Christ,

Pastor Kris



Seeking the Spirit By Virg Unverferth

I just love May and June. If we have gotten adequate rainfall, everything is so green and I love seeing all of the flowers and plants begin to take bloom. In today's society, we are often go, go, go and do most of traveling by vehicle, so we don't "stop and smell the roses." This month, I would like to consider nature meditation. This can be done on a daily walk, while you sit on your porch, when you go out to water any flowers or plants, or when you just sit in your house and look out on God's beauty.

Take in a few deep breaths and focus on what scents you smell. Look around and notice the colors, shapes, and movements of leaves, petals, and the clouds.

Feel the texture of the grass, flowers or plants.

Just sit and listen focusing on the sounds of nature such as the wind, rustle of leaves, and birds chirping.

Continue to breath and relax your body even closing your eyes as you continue to focus on the things you saw, heard, or felt.

Thank God for your ability to interact with nature in this way and for all of the beauty God has created with us in the world.

Loving One Another

We all know Jesus' response to the question, "What is the greatest commandment?" He said, "Love God with all your heart mind, soul, and strength. And the second is like it—love your neighbor as yourself." Virtually every religion, and honestly even most non-religious people say they hold to something like that—the Golden Rule.

In one of my meditation times this week, I read a meditation on this by Father Richard Rohr. He said this:

Imagine how different the world would be if we just obeyed that one commandment—to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. It would be the most mighty political, social upheaval imaginable. The world would be radically different if human beings really treated other people as they would like to be treated.

So here's a thought experiment for you. Think about the news stories and social media posts about recent events. Now imagine that what Fr. Rohr wrote came true today. What would the news stories and social media posts look like tomorrow?

We can't make everyone do this. But what would happen if even more people did? How might it impact even the worst of us when they keep encountering love? What's one thing you can do?

End of Year Fun



Confirmation Bible review

Church school family picnic



Worship is at 9 am Sundays, in person or online—or you can join us later on YouTube or on our Facebook page. Links to the bulletin, Facebook page, and YouTube channel can be found on our website:

<https://www.zionithaca.org/worship>

Calendar

June 2	9:00 am—Worship with no communion—Pastor Kris at Synod Assembly
June 9	8:00 am—Council 9:00 am—Worship with Holy Communion
June 16	9:00 am—Worship
June 23	9:00 am—Worship
June 30	9:00 am—Worship
July 7	9:00 am—Worship with communion
July 14	10:00 am—Ceresco Days worship, Ceresco park
July 21	9:00 am—worship
July 28	9:00 am—worship

June helpers

Cleaners—Cindy and Jerry
Usher—Merlin, Aaron
Lector—Ficks
Communion Asst.— Merlin

July Helpers

Cleaners—Lacey and TJ
Usher—Charlie, Gail
Lector—Diane/Charlie
Communion Asst.— Carol

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